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Dear Ninth Congressional District Art Teacher,

At the request of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, the 23rd Annual Invitational Ninth Congressional District Art Exhibition is being organized by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, our partners at the Fireland Association of the Visual Arts (FAVA) and Oberlin College.

Enclosed you will find the criteria and relevant dates for this years show, along with an information survey that we hope will help to enhance our communication.

You are still to submit your two strongest works and the competition will follow the guidelines as done in years past (see enclosed). The works will be judged on the enclosed criteria and awards given for artistic merit. Winner's works will be on display in Washington D.C. and Congresswoman Kaptur's office.

As mentioned at the last exhibition reception this year will include a new marketing competition component. The purpose of this new component is to help students become aware of how works of art can be used in practical applications, and understand marketing opportunities within the field of commercial design.

A jury representing the commercial design community will select works of art that include elements that can best be translated into "surface design". The selected students will receive savings bonds and, in addition, will be invited to a workshop with Libbey Glass staff and The Great Lakes Innovation and Development Enterprise (G.L.I.D.E.) Program to further promote their understanding of marketing and entrepreneurship. Finally, a winning design will then be converted into an example of a saleable object (i.e. glassware, fabric, etc.).

We are excited to be able to offer this component, and hope you will encourage students to consider the artistic value of surface design for the commercial market.

We are currently working on the exhibition timeline and will send correspondence as soon as this is established. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 419-254-2787 or Theresa Morris-Ramos at Congresswoman Kaptur's office at 419-259-7500.

Sincerely.

Marc D. Folk Artistic Director